

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:  
an image bearing means for bearing a toner  
image;  
5 an intermediary transfer member, wherein the  
toner image is electrostatically transferred from said  
image bearing means onto said intermediary transfer  
member, and then transferred from said intermediary  
transfer member onto a transfer material;  
10 wherein said intermediary transfer member  
includes a first layer and a second layer, provided on  
said first layer, for receiving the toner image from  
said image bearing means, and wherein said second  
15 layer has a volume resistivity smaller than that of  
said first layer.
2. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein  
the volume resistivity of said first layer is  $10^{11}$  to  
 $10^{15}$  Ohm.cm.  
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3. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein  
the volume resistivity of said second layer is  $10^{10}$  to  
 $10^{14}$  Ohm.cm.
- 25 4. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein  
the volume resistivity of said first layer is  $10^{11}$  to  
 $10^{15}$  Ohm.cm, and the volume resistivity of said second

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layer is  $10^{10}$  to  $10^{14}$  Ohm.cm.

5. An apparatus according to any one of Claims 1-4, wherein said second layer has a thickness of 1-5  
5 microns.

6. An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein said first layer has a thickness larger than that of said second layer.

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7. An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein a plurality of the toner images are transferred onto said intermediary transfer member so that an overlaid toner image is formed thereon, and the overlaid images  
15 are transferred from said intermediary transfer member onto the transfer material.

8. An apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said image bearing means is provided with an image  
20 bearing member capable of bearing different color toner images.

9. An apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said image bearing means is provided with a plurality  
25 of image bearing members for bearing different color toner images, respectively.

10. An apparatus according to Claim 5, further comprising transfer means for electrostatically transferring the toner image from said image bearing means onto said intermediary transfer member, wherein  
5 said transfer means applied a voltage to such a side of said intermediary transfer member as is opposite from a side thereof for receiving the toner image.

11. An apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein  
10 the voltage has a polarity opposite from a regular charging polarity of the toner.

12. An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said transfer means is provided with a voltage source  
15 for supplying the voltage.

13. An apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein said transfer means is provided with a roller contactable to such a side of said intermediary  
20 transfer member as is opposite from a side thereof for receiving the toner image.

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14. An apparatus according to Claim 1 ~~or 11~~, *TM*  
further comprising charging means for charging a  
25 surface of said image bearing means to a polarity which is the same as a regular charging polarity of the toner.

15. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said intermediary transfer member is provided with a base layer for supporting said first layer.

5 16. An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said base layer is elastic.

17. An apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein said base layer is a rubber layer.

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18. An apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising transfer means for electrostatically transferring the toner image from said image bearing means onto said intermediary transfer member, wherein  
15 said transfer means applied a voltage to such a side of said intermediary transfer member as is opposite from a side thereof for receiving the toner image.

19. An apparatus according to Claim 18, wherein  
20 the voltage has a polarity opposite from a regular charging polarity of the toner.

20. An apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein said transfer means is provided with a voltage source  
25 for supplying the voltage.

21. An apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein

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said transfer means is provided with a roller contactable to such a side of said intermediary transfer member as is opposite from a side thereof for receiving the toner image.

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22. An apparatus according to Claim 1 or 19, further comprising charging means for charging a surface of said image bearing means to a polarity which is the same as a regular charging polarity of the toner.

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23. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said intermediary transfer member is in the form of a belt.

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24. An apparatus according to Claim 23, further comprising supporting means for supporting said intermediary transfer member.

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25. An apparatus according to Claim 24, wherein said supporting means is provided with a plurality of rollers.

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26. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein a plurality of the toner images are transferred onto said intermediary transfer member so that an overlaid toner image is formed thereon, and the overlaid images

are transferred from said intermediary transfer member onto the transfer material.

27. An apparatus according to Claim 25, wherein  
5 said image bearing means is provided with an image bearing member capable of bearing different color toner images.

28. An apparatus according to Claim 25, wherein  
10 said image bearing means is provided with a plurality of image bearing members for bearing different color toner images, respectively.

29. An intermediary transfer member onto which a  
15 toner image is electrostatically transferred from image bearing means, said intermediary transfer member comprising:

a first layer; and

20 a second layer, provided on said first layer, for receiving the toner image from said image bearing means, wherein said second layer has a volume resistivity smaller than that of said first layer.

30. An intermediary transfer member according to  
25 Claim 28, wherein the volume resistivity of said first layer is  $10^{11}$  to  $10^{15}$  Ohm.cm.

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36. An intermediary transfer member according to  
25 Claim 29, wherein said intermediary transfer member is  
in the form of a belt.